

Enfranchisement of the Citizens

reason of this infirmament that he was elected. But, no sooner is he firmly seated in his Senatorial chair than he forgets his protestations in favor of reform, and goes hand-in-hand with the very individuals whose schemes he was pledged to overthrow.

We wish not to speak harshly of any man; but it is not we who speak. The facts, the dreary record of his votes, as in part given above, speak in harsher and louder tones than any we could use.

Enough for the present. Hereafter we may continue the exposure.

HUMAN LEGISLATION.

The array of laws with which the new Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals is furnished, may be briefly summarized. 1. An act against the confining of live stock for a longer period than 24 hours without unloading to feed, rest and water during at least ten consecutive hours—the forfeit for each offence is \$100. 2. An old law against the beating, torturing and maiming of horses, cattle, and sheep especially, with a maximum penalty of one year's imprisonment, \$250 fine, or both. 3. A section to prohibit the binding and crowding of calves and sheep in carts. 4. An act against the injuring, torturing, maiming or killing of any animal with malice or by neglect. 5. A provision not to allow dead horses and mules to lie in the streets for more than three hours. 6. Against pugilism or prize-fighting, cock-pitting, bull and bear-baiting, badgering, dog-fights and rat-pits, with a punishment not greater than one year or less than ten days in jail, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000. 7. A section as to the duty of magistrates. These include, we believe, all the laws that will freshly operate in the reform inspired by the Preventive Society, and we are glad to observe that prize-fighting happens by chance to be reckoned with cruelties to animals. Among the incorporators of the Society are Mayor Hoffman, George Bancroft, Peter Cooper, Henry Grinnell, Gen. Dix, Bishop Potter, Moses Taylor, Wm. H. Aspinwall, Wm. Cullen Bryant, Judge Daly, Frank Leslie, Jas. T. Brady, Dr. Bellows, Oakley Hall, Commissioner Acton and Henry De Berg, the last gentleman a prominent member in the present reform. These names are warrant not only of its great urgency, but that the laws which sustain it will have practical effect.

Experience returns us the very true truth that social amelioration makes slow progress by missions and volunteering unless aided by law in the humblest details. There is a proverb—"Take care of the pennies, and the pounds will take care of themselves," and men will be less brutish than before. We know of no way of educating men to temperance so effectually as by keeping out of sight extravagant temptations to drink. All the self-interest in the world, stimulated by remonstrance, could not avail to prevent cruelty to animals, to make our daily food purer, and our daily forces stronger, without humane laws. We make these remarks much for the sake of those who, in dealing with labor, temperance, the freedmen, or any other social idea, indifferently surrender everything to the incursions—that social paganism which steals and decours men and babes—a vague, Juggernaut fact of supply and demand—regardless of the fact that humane legislation is a portion of the just demand and supply. Who will deny that Emancipation has made this commonplace truth more emphatic even to pro-Slavery minds, by resenting the intellect and conscience of men from the great dye-rat of Slavery? Supposing Slavery have prevailed, what would have become of our smaller reforms (which, after all, are great reforms) if not postponed from councils and Legislatures, from the Broadway abominations, the alley-slums, milk-districts and slaughter-houses, a generation hence? It is worth our while, in a city ruled by ours, to compare the great facts with small, and so date from this day a progress straightforwardly social. Now, if statistics faithfully show that by sanitary care of the city we can lessen its mortality as many lives per week, let us believe that the humble reform of preventing cruelty to animals will somehow lead up to lessen murder. The preventionists have begun at a good end, while others are working elsewhere.

MISSOURI.

The present Constitution of Missouri disfranchises Rebels in act or heart—each man being the judge as to his own sympathies. This may be an unwise restriction of Suffrage—we think it pretty certain to prove futile—but why cannot its adversaries look it square in the face! Why do they *always* feel constrained to misrepresent it! Hear *The Express*:

The second infamy is to require of a clergyman—what the rest exact—
That he never, by act or word, manifested any sympathy with those engaged in rebellion against the United States.
"A minister of the Gospel is bound by that gospel to care for Rebel as well as for Loyalist—to love him, to aid him, to comfort him, to soothe his wounds, to nurse when sick, and to attend to the religious instruction of all whom well. No man could be a minister of the Gospel, who did not feel sympathy for Rebel when in suffering, or distress—and who would not endeavor to kiss the consolations of the Gospel, as well as to those of others."

—Can such impudent sophistry deceive a single rational being? Does not *The Express* well know that no clergyman nor a Rebel, never yet hesitated to take the oath because he had felt and acted toward a dying Rebel the part of the Good Samaritan?

There is another such cavil, scarcely less knavish. Gov. C. F. Jackson of Missouri, elected in 1860, turned Rebel in 1861, and was hunted out of the State, dying a refugee in Arkansas. He for a time had a Rebel Legislature, and now Copperheads pretend that they cannot conscientiously swear that they have never been disloyal to the State, because they did oppose Jackson and his Legislature! Bah!

Referring to the petition for his expulsion presented to the U. S. Senate on Thursday, Mr. Garrett Davis said:

As an example of garbling the petition reminds me of an specimen quoted in one of the newspapers recently to this effect:—"The Bible teaches that there is no God." When these words were read in connection with the context it was about as in these terms: "The fool hath said in his heart there is no God." Well, sir, the specimen of my speech referred to in the petition is about as fair as that I have just quoted.

Of course, "the Newspapers." Sins of omission or commission are attributed to the universal scapegoat. But Mr. Davis is, we believe, a lawyer, if not a statesman, and ought to have, whether he has or not, some familiarity with the ordinary lore of the profession, even if he knows nothing of great State trials. Algeron Sydney was tried for high treason in 1863, and in his defense made use of the illustration which Mr. Garrett Davis attributes to a "recent newspaper." About a hundred years later, Erskine, in the trial, if we remember aright, of the Bishop of St. Asaph for libel, made use of the same argument. The Kentucky Senator, however, acknowledged, no doubt, the best school-master he knew of.

Judge Nelson of the U. S. Circuit Court has decided that the surplus earnings of a bank cannot be taxed as capital. The statute levies a license fee of \$1000 for a capital of \$50,000, and \$2000 \$1,000 for all capital above that sum. An Albany Collector undertook to reckon surplus earnings as part of the capital to pay taxes, but the Court stopped him by injunction, and gives a sound opinion that the capital of a bank is a fixed and not fluctuating amount, and cannot be altered except by legislative authority. Besides, a distinct tax is levied on the surplus earnings, and Congress did not mean to tax the same thing twice over. We do not think this decision will be questioned.

From Fortrose Monroe—Friday, April 27, 1861.
 Arrived steamer Rapidan from New Orleans, with Company B of the 3d United States Colored Artillery, and called for New-York.